

*Room 5000
CIA 8
Eugene*

OAKLAND, CALIF.
TRIBUNE

E - 202,072
S - 222,346

JAN 15 1966

Senator Says Big Asia War Far Off

The United States, despite the conflict in Viet Nam, is a long way from a war with Communist China.

This country's great national product can support the Vietnamese war without more taxes.

These views were expressed yesterday at a press conference by the senior senator from Minnesota, Eugene J. McCarthy, who spoke at a San Francisco luncheon for more than 400 under the auspices of the Democratic Women of the Bay Area.

Sen. McCarthy, who served in the House from 1948 to 1956, was elected to the Senate in 1960 and now is a member of the committees on finance and foreign relations.

'LACK FIRMNESS'

Questioned about the waging of an undeclared war in Viet Nam, Sen. McCarthy said that there is national support for the President's course in spite of the lack of a congressional declaration. He noted the example of the Korean conflict and declared there is no difference now.

Americans, however, are lukewarm in respect to the Vietnamese war and lack the firmness and determination so widely displayed toward Germany and Japan in World War II, he declared.

On one of his favorite subjects, McCarthy said that Congress should subject the Central Intelligence Agency to close scrutiny.

McCarthy believes that there now is no effective opposition party in the Congress but this, he says, doesn't mean that the President can have anything he asks for, especially in the field of foreign policy. The Senate, he believes, is going to take a hard look at some of President Johnson's proposals.

'2 BIG FAILURES'

McCarthy, a staunch civil rights advocate, cited to the San Francisco group the progress made by the last session of Congress and stressed that the problem now is to move ahead.

"The failures of our society today," he said, "are primarily two: first, the existence of poverty and deprivation in the midst of plenty; and second, discrimination and denial of civil rights to many in the society."

"We live in an age of revolution and explosive changes have given to the problems of today an immediacy not characteristic of previous eras."

"The test of America today is the test of the professional, not of the amateur. We have more knowledge than we are using and more potential for service than we have exercised."